

## **BAY CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (BCATS)**

Policy Committee Minutes - June 15, 2011

Page 1

---

### **Call To Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

Those present were:

Dave Engelhardt, BCATS staff; George Augustyniak, Fraser Twp. Supervisor; Cory Wale, Bay Co. Road Commission; Tom Ryder, Bay Co. Board of Commissioners; Jack Wheatley, Rowe Engineering representing Bay City; Gary Brandt, Monitor Twp.; Eric Sprague Bay Metro Transit Authority; Dennis Bragiel, Kawkawlin Twp. Supervisors; Jay Reithel, MDOT -Bay Region; Jim Bedell City of Bay City; and Dirk Westbury BCATS staff.

### **Introductions:**

Engelhardt introduced Cory Wale from the Bay County Road Commission who was attending in place of Jim Lillo.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

It was moved by Augustyniak, seconded by Wheatley, to approve the minutes from the April 20, 2011 meeting. Motion Passed.

### **Public Comment:**

There was no public comment brought before the committee.

### **Update From Bay Metro Transit:**

Sprague had no new updates.

### **TIP Amendments - MDOT, Bay City & BCRC:**

A handout was presented with all the amended projects listed. There are several GPA amendments from MDOT for 2012, State Street Rail crossing improvements for 2011 and Cass Avenue Rd resurfacing from Southeast Boutell Rd to Knight Rd for 2014. The Cass Rd project is a rural project, but is in the BCATS township of Portsmouth, and therefore is required to be included in our TIP.

A motion was made by Ryder and seconded by Brandt to amend the FY 2011-14 TIP with the discussed projects. Motion Passed.

### **BCATS 2012 Unified Work Program:**

Engelhardt informed the committee that all agencies have agreed to provide their required matching money up front through a cash contribution with the possibility to be reimbursed for services of eligible work items throughout the fiscal year up to the amounts contributed. The amount of each agencies is as follows: BMTA \$7,000; Bay City \$8,550; Essexville \$1,009; BCRC \$18,750. The totals were determined by an estimate from the BMTA on the totals for the various work items and the reminder was based on total lane miles of Urban Federal Aid Eligible roads owned by each agency.

## **BAY CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (BCATS)**

Policy Committee Minutes - June 15, 2011

Page 2

---

The motion was made by Reithel and seconded by Ryder to accept the cash contributions of the local transportation agencies totaling \$35,309 for the FY 2012 UWP. Motion Passed.

Bedell had a minor correction to the UWP text as provided in the agenda packet. Any reference to 'Bay City Engineering Department' should be change to 'Bay City' as the Engineering Department no longer exists in that name. As the department's name may change again, keeping just 'Bay City' will keep it simple.

A motion was made by Bedell and seconded by Ryder to approved the FY 2012 Unified Work Program, including incorporating the financials previously approved, and subject to any changes required by MDOT or FHWA. Motion Passed.

### **MPO Threshold Change to 200,000 in Draft Reauthorization Bill:**

According to a "leaked" early draft of the USDOT reauthorization proposal for highway, transit, rail, and safety, it is being considered to change the MPO threshold to 200,000 population and eliminate all MPOs under that total, which would include BCATS. This is being considered due to a falling highway trust fund therefore less money to go around and possible increases in performance measures that small MPOs with there minimal staffing levels may not be able to meet. If these MPOs are dissolved then any federal aid that those urban areas would receive would go through MDOT State Program similar to their small urban program. The MTPA is hoping their will be support to approve a resolution of support to keep the threshold at 50,000 at there upcoming monthly meeting. Engelhardt will provide the committee with more information when it becomes available.

### **2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Timeline:**

Engelhardt is hoping to get the text out for the 2040 MTP by the end of the calendar year. Future Socio-Economic Data will need to be approved at the next Policy Meeting. BCATS staff will be contacting the local units to get detailed information on possible future development.

### **BCATS Non-Motorized Plan Update:**

Westbury stated that prior to last week's Technical Committee Meeting, Terry Moulane & Jack Wheatley met with Westbury & Engelhardt to discuss their comments on the BCATS NMTP. As a result, some corrections, additions, and changes were made. Westbury also informed the committee of the upcoming 3 Trails in 3 Days event August 19-21 to raise funds to connect the Bay City, Midland and Saginaw Trail systems.

### **Projects Update:**

The **Walnut St Project** from Vermont to the Vet's Bridge is planned to start July 5<sup>th</sup> will include work on the underground utilities. The **Adams St Project** between Columbus and McKinley is planned for late summer early fall work and will convert Adams to a two-way street. This project is paid for out of block grant money designed for low income areas. The **Harrison St Project** is planned for next spring

## **BAY CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (BCATS)**

Policy Committee Minutes - June 15, 2011

Page 3

---

and will reconstruct two blocks adjacent to previously completed Harrison St project. The **Midland Road Project** was awarded to Shaw Construction and was 1% under engineers estimate. The project will start July 5<sup>th</sup>. The **North Union Project** planned for 2012 is currently being designed and will include paved shoulders for non-motorized use.

### **Other/New Business:**

#### ***Road Salt:***

Engelhardt provide the committee members with an article about road salt and its effect on the infrastructure and environment for their information.

#### ***Mackinaw Rd/US-10 Interchange:***

Brandt brought up the issues at the Mackinaw Rd US-10 interchange and was wondering when MDOT was planning to improving that location. Of concern is there will be increased traffic due to the expansion of Fabiano Bros. and concerns of vehicles stacking up in the off ramps into the travel lanes of US-10. It is known that there is little funding available for the project. Reithel will look into acquiring traffic counts and employment information for the area to help assess the need for changes to the interchange and possible funding sources.

As there was no further business, the June 15, 2011 BCATS Policy Committee meeting was adjourned at 2:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Engelhardt  
BCATS Director

*Transcribed by D. Westbury*